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PROVISIONAL APPLICATION COVER SHEET

This is a request for filing a PROVISIONAL APPLICATION under 37 CFR 1.53(b)(2).

A Prov.

Docket Number	65,156-005	Type plus sign (+) inside this box →	+

INVENTOR(S)/APPLICANT(S)

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TITLE OF THE INVENTION (280 characters max)

SYSTEM FOR AND METHOD OF BETTING

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ENCLOSED APPLICATION PARTS (*check all that apply*)

☒ Specification — *Number of Pages* 4 — ☐ Small Entity Statement
☒ Drawing(s) — *Number of Sheets* 2 — ☐ Other (specify) _____

METHOD OF PAYMENT (*check one*)

		PROVISIONAL FILING FEE AMOUNT ($)
☒	A check or money order is enclosed to cover the Provisional filing fees	
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The invention was made by an agency of the United States Government or under a contract with an agency of the United States Government.

☒ No.

☐ Yes, the name of the U.S. Government agency and the Government contract number are: _____

Respectfully submitted,

SIGNATURE _____ Date 6/18/99

TYPED or PRINTED NAME Robin W. Asher REGISTRATION NO. 41,590 (*if appropriate*)

☐ Additional inventors are being named on separately numbered sheets attached hereto

PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FILING ONLY

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAIL

I hereby certify that the enclosed Provisional Application, drawings and check for $150.00 is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee," Express Mail No. EL270003724US, and addressed to Box Provisional Patent Application, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on this 18th day of June, 1999.

Lesley Ramaut

Lesley Ramaut

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SYSTEM FOR AND METHOD OF BETTING

Field of Invention

This invention relates to a system for and a method of betting. In particular, this invention relates to an improved system and method of betting to encourage the number and types of bets.

Background of Invention

In pari-mutuel betting, all bets for a particular race are pooled together and available for winning. The winners share in the pool, less a management fee.

In order to enhance the size of the pool, race tracks provide its race information and access to its pari-mutuel pools to other race tracks and off-track betting locations. The race track charges a management fee to the remote sites for such access. Race tracks often form reciprocal agreements with or networks of several other race tracks. In this manner, a patron at any one of the network race tracks can place wagers on, watch and receive winnings from any race of any of the other reciprocal race tracks.

The network of race tracks have improved access to races from other race tracks. The network does little to encourage a casual patron to make a wager nor challenge a seasoned patron to make more wagers.

Currently, certain race tracks offer game cards with pre-printed selection of numbers which correspond to the numbers of the horses running in particular races. The game cards make it easier for the casual or novice patron to place wagers and a relatively low cost. However, such cards doe not challenge the seasoned patron.

Summary of the Invention

The disadvantages of the prior art may be overcome by providing a system for betting makes it easier to place casual wagerers yet challenges the seasoned patron.

According to one aspect of the invention, there is provided a betting system comprising a game card and a computer. The game card is pre-printed with a random selection of numbers corresponding to horses of particular races from a plurality of race tracks. The game card is

submitted together with a wager. The information on the game card and the amount of the wager is received and accounted by the computer. Responsive to the game card information, the computer allocates a portion of the wager to a plurality of pari-mutuel pools. Once the race has been completed, the computer receives the winnings and allocates the amount of winnings to the winning game cards. If any particular pool is not won, the amount is carried over to the next to run race.

According to another aspect of the invention, there is provided a betting system comprising a game card and a computer. The game card is pre-printed with a plurality of race events and the patron marks the card with a selection of numbers corresponding to horses of particular races from a plurality of race tracks. The game card is submitted together with a wager. The information on the game card and the amount of the wager is received and accounted by the computer. Responsive to the game card information, the computer allocates a portion of the wager to a plurality of pari-mutuel pools. Once the race has been completed, the computer receives the winnings and allocates the amount of winnings to the winning game cards. If any particular pool is not won, the amount is carried over to the next to run race.

Brief Description of the Drawings

In drawings which illustrate aspects of the present invention, wherein

Figure 1 is a top plan view of a typical pre-printed game card of the betting system of the present invention;

Figure 2 is a schematic view of the betting system of the present invention; and

Figure 3 is a top plan view of a blank or computer readable card.

Description of the Preferred Embodiment

Referring to Figure 1, a typical pre-printed game card 10 of the betting system of the present invention is illustrated. The game card 10 will have a printed matrix 12. The matrix will have three rows 14, 16, 18 corresponding to different race tracks and columns corresponding to the number races on day of the race. The three rows 14, 16, 18 will each have a pre-printed number which corresponds to a horse randomly selected to win, place and show.

The number of race tracks will depend on which race tracks wish to participate in the betting system.

In the preferred embodiment, each game card 10 will have a Universal Bar Code 22 which digitizes the information of the game card 10. The Universal Bar Code 22 is preferred as it is readable by a computer bar code reader 26.

The method of the present invention is best described by way of example. A race track will have a number of the game cards 10 available for sale. The game cards 10 are purchased in the same manner as BINGO cards are sold. The game cards 10 can be sold in different denominations, *i.e.* $2.00, $5.00, $10.00 *etc.* Once the game card 10 is purchased, the gaming information encoded on the game card 10 is scanned or read into the computer 24. The computer 24 receives the gaming information and the wager amount (the purchase price). By using a pre-printed game card 10, the patron has automatically placed a wager on three horses for each of the nine races and for each of the different race tracks. The patron has also placed a wager on all of the exactor, triactor and superfecta races for each of the race tracks. Additionally, a wager has been placed on multiple PICK 5's and PICK 6's. From the gaming information, the computer 24 will calculate the permutations of the different types of wagers. Based on the hierarchy of the probabilities of winning, the computer will then allocate the wager, less a management fee, to each of the pari-mutuel pools.

For example, since it is easiest to win at selecting a horse to show, 20% of the remaining wager could be allocated to SHOW wagers. Similarly, 20% could be allocated to PLACE and 15% to WIN. Since the probabilities of winning a PICK 6 is the most remote, only 6% is allocated to PICK 6. PICK 5 is allocated 7%, SUPERFECTA is allocated 8%, TRIACTOR is allocated 9%, EXACTOR is allocated 10% and PICK ALL is allocated 5%. For each type of wager, the net wager amount is divided by the number of races and the number of tracks and the amount is allocated to the respective pari-mutuel pool.

The information for each of the wagers and the wager amounts are transmitted in a conventional fashion to each respective race track for inclusion in the respective pool. Once the races have been run, the race result information is returned to the source computer 24. The source computer 24 allocates the winnings to the winning game cards 10. The holder of the

winning cards 10 returns to the ticket window to claim any winnings.

If for any pari-mutuel pool there are no winning game cards, the pool is carried forward to the next race event. As is apparent to those skilled in the art, the pool has the ability to grow, particularly the pari-mutuel pools which have greater odds against winning, i.e. PICK 6. As the pool grows, it becomes more attractive and will thus encourage further sales of the game cards 10.

In a second embodiment of the present invention, there is a game card 30. The game card 30 is similar to the game card 10 except that the game card 30 is blank in the spaces in the matrix. In this manner, the experienced patron can enter his or her own selections. The patron can insert a number corresponding to a race horse for any or all of the events and enter any or all of the available pari-mutuel pools. Optionally, the patron can insert a number in any desired areas of the matrix and enter only pre-selected pools. Still further, the game card 30 can be pre-printed with ovals 32 which when darkened by a pencil is computer readable. The number of ovals 32 corresponds to the number of possible horses for any race event, usually a maximum of fourteen.

The computer 24 reads the wager information from the game card 30 and will then operate in the manner described above. If a particular type of wager has not been entered, then the computer 24 will re-allocate the wager according to a pre-determined hierarchy.

Although the disclosure describes and illustrates the preferred embodiments of the invention, it is understood that the invention is not limited to these particular embodiments. Many variations and modifications will now occur to those skilled in the art.

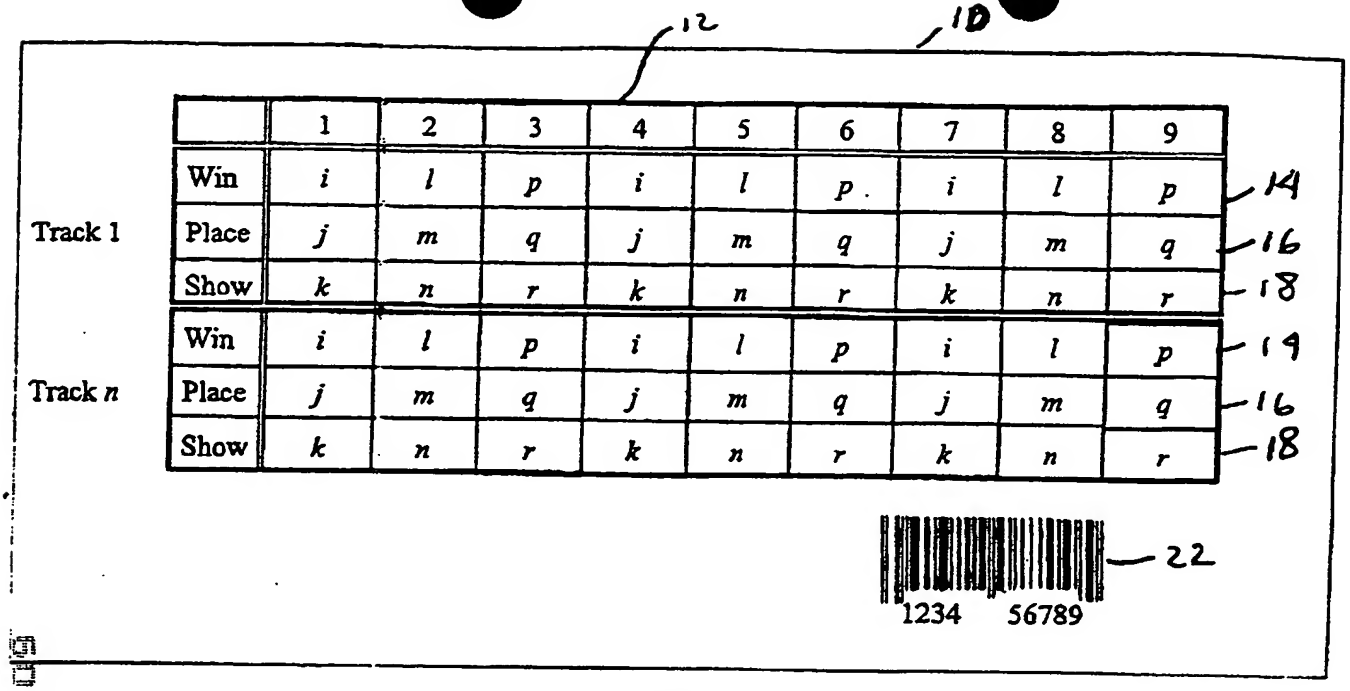
12
10
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
Win i l p i l p i l p
Place j m q j m q j m q
Show k n r k n r k n r
Track 1
Win i l p i l p i l p
Place j m q j m q j m q
Show k n r k n r k n r
Track n
14
16
18
19
16
18
22
1234 56789

FIG. 1

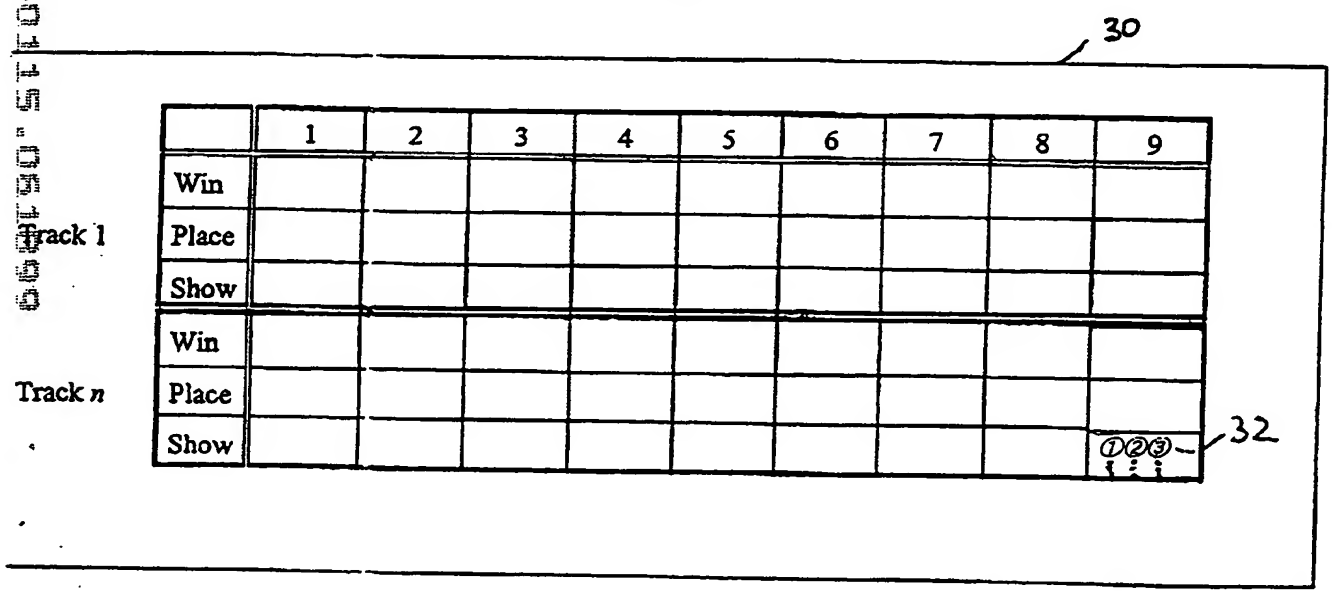
30
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
Win
Place
Show
Track 1
Win
Place
Show
Track n
32
①②③

FIG. 2

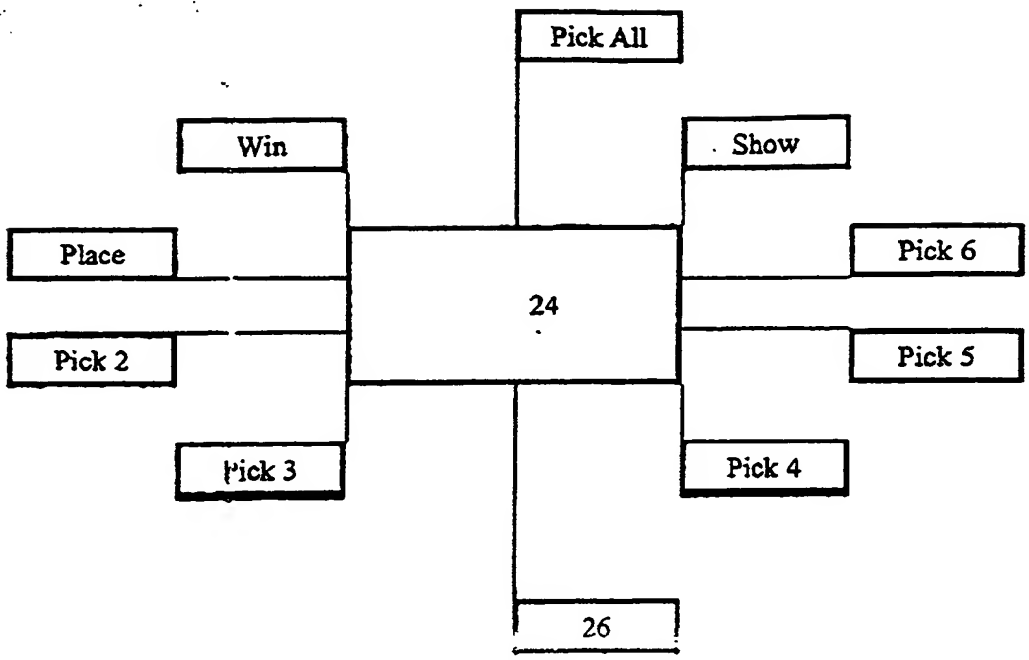

FIG. 3

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